

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A monitoring device, comprising:

a controller programmed to receive at least one monitor signal from an environment monitor located in a monitored zone in which a person requiring supervision is located, wherein said at least one monitor signal includes at least one of video and audio data;

said controller being programmed to produce class data by classifying at least one alarm condition in the monitored zone in a class selected from a plurality of available classes, responsive to said at least one monitor signal;

wherein the at least one alarm condition indicates that an event that is threatening to the person has occurred; and

said controller being programmed to generate an alarm signal responsively to said class data and to initiate a transmission of the alarm signal to a remote supervisor, said alarm signal including at least a portion of said at least one monitor signal at least one of immediately prior to and immediately after an incidence of said at least one alarm condition, wherein said controller is programmed to recognize faces and said at least one alarm condition is responsive to at least one of: (a) a failure to

detect a face of the person in the monitored zone, and (b) a presence of an unrecognized face in the monitored zone.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) A monitoring device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is programmed to solicit an action by an occupant, said at least one monitor signal being responsive to said action by said occupant.

6. (Currently Amended) A monitoring device as in claim 1 comprising:

a controller programmed to receive at least one monitor signal from an environment monitor located in a monitored zone in which a person requiring supervision is located, wherein said at least one monitor signal includes at least one of video and audio data;  
said controller being programmed to produce class data by classifying at least one alarm condition in the monitored zone in a class selected from a plurality of available classes, responsive to said at least one monitor signal;

wherein the at least one alarm condition indicates that an event that is threatening to the person has occurred; and  
said controller being programmed to generate an alarm signal responsively to said class data and to initiate a transmission of

the alarm signal to a remote supervisor, said alarm signal including at least a portion of said at least one monitor signal at least one of immediately prior to and immediately after an incidence of said at least one alarm condition, wherein said controller is programmed to recognize a speaker's voice, and said alarm signal is responsive to at least one of: (a) a failure to recognize a voice of the person, and (b) a presence of a voice of an unrecognized or unauthorized person.

7. (Previously presented) A monitoring device as in claim 1, wherein said at least one monitor signal includes a signal from a detector configured to detect a lapse in breathing by said person.

8. (Previously presented) A monitoring device as in claim 1, wherein said alarm signal includes at least a portion of said at least one monitor signal immediately prior to and immediately after an incidence of the at least one alarm condition.

9. (Previously presented) A monitoring device as in claim 1 wherein said alarm signal includes at least one of an audio signal, text data signal, and a video signal.

10. (Previously presented) A monitoring system, comprising:

a controller connected to receive at least one signal from at least one sensor for monitoring an environment of a person requiring supervision; said at least one sensor generating first and second signals responsive to a state of a caretaker of said person and a state of said person, respectively;

said controller being programmed to determine whether to generate a first alarm signal based on whether the state of the caretaker represents a distress event for the person, and to determine whether to generate a second alarm signal based on the state of the person.

11. (Original) A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein said first alarm signal includes a sample of at least one of said first and second signals.

12. (Previously presented) A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein said controller is programmed to generate a message to solicit an action by said caretaker when said first alarm signal is generated.

13. (Previously presented) A monitoring method, comprising the steps of:

monitoring a person requiring supervision by generating a first signal indicative of a status of at least one of the person

and an environment of the person ;detecting when a behavior of a second person in the environment, other than said person requiring supervision, represents a distress event for the person requiring supervision so as to require the attention of a remote supervisor; and

transmitting a signal including at least one of audio, video, and text data to said remote supervisor when the step of detecting detects that the behavior of the second person requires the attention of the remote supervisor.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) A monitoring method as in claim 13, wherein said person requiring supervision is an infant and said step of detecting includes detecting a lapse of breathing of said infant.

16. (Previously presented) A monitoring method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting includes detecting at least one of an audio signal and video signal and classifying a predefined pattern in said at least one of an audio signal and a video signal.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) A monitoring method as in claim 13, wherein:

    said step of detecting includes at least one of recognizing a face of said person requiring supervision or the second person, classifying a body habitus of said person requiring supervision, classifying a physiognomy of said person requiring supervision, detecting a speed of movement of said person requiring supervision or said second person, detecting a number of persons in an occupied zone in the environment, and recognizing a voice signature; and  
    said steps of recognizing, classifying, and detecting are automatic machine processes.

19. (Previously presented) A monitoring method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting includes detecting at least one of a movement or lack thereof and a speech or lack thereof, of at least one of said person and said second person.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A monitoring device as in claim 1, wherein:

    the transmission comprises an indication of the class to which the at least one alarm condition belongs.

22. (Previously presented) A monitoring device as in claim 1, further comprising:

buffering the at least one monitor signal to provide the at least a portion of the at least one monitor signal in the alarm signal.

23. (Previously presented) A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein:

the at least one sensor is positioned according to an expected location of the caretaker relative to the person.

24. (Previously presented) A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein:

said controller generates the first alarm signal when the state of the caretaker is outside a first specified range; and

said controller generates the second alarm signal when the state of the person is outside a second specified range.

25. (Previously presented) A monitoring method as in claim 13, wherein:

the signal transmitted to the remote supervisor includes at least a portion of said first signal.